MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): With reference to the answer to part (*c*) of the question, may I know whether the Government will consider the advisability of fixing a fare at least in future?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): As at present advised, Government do not think it advisable to fix the rates, because there is competition among the several proprietors and owners of the buses. In course of time the natural consequence of this will be that there will be a reduction in the fares.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): Is the member aware that the price of petrol will vary?

PRESIDENT: You cannot ask a question now.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): If the competition is found to be unhealthy, is it not desirable to fix some rates?

MR. P. N KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): That question has to be considered only in future.

Irrigation works in the Neyyattinkara Taluk.

285. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount sanctioned for irrigation works in the Neyyattinkara taluk for the year 1103, and how much of it was actually spent;

(*b*) if the whole amount sanctioned was not spent, the reasons therefor; and

(*c*) whether the officers concerned are not responsible to see that as much work is turned out during the year as could possibly be done with the amount sanctioned?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Amount sanctioned ... Rs. 18,725.
Amount actually spent ... Rs. 18,112.

(*b*) and (*c*) The difference is trifling and hence these questions do not arise.

The Venganur Todu.

286. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): With regard to the Venganur *todu* in the Tiruvallam pakuti, Neyyattinkara taluk, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount sanctioned for the improvement of the same during the years 1101, 1102 and 1103, together with the amount actually spent during each of those years;

(*b*) the work that was actually executed by way of improvement thereof in each of the abovesaid years; and

(*c*) whether the *todu* in its present state is useful for purposes of irrigation?

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MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*)

Year.	*Grant.*	*Expenditure.*
	Rs.	Rs.
1101	300	246
1102	300	223
1103	300	99

(*b*) In 1101, a big breach in the bund of the *todu* below Martandankulam was closed and other connected works were carried out.

In 1102, the banks were strengthened and the *todu* widened in narrow places.

In 1103, narrow places were widened wherever required and the jungle cleared.

(*c*) Yes.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : With regard to the answer to part (*c*) of the question, may I know whether the answer "yes" is based on any report ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes, on the Chief Engineer's report.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know the date of the report ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : 18-1-1929.

Remission of Kudipathi.

287. MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : Are the Government aware that there is wide-spread discontent at present among the ryots of Neyyattinkara on account of their liability to pay half the cost of the works for the improvement of irrigation in the Neyyattinkara taluk ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : The answer is in the negative.

Contracts for Minor Irrigation Works.

288. MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : In regard to contracts for minor irrigation works, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have considered the desirability of giving these contracts to the local co-operative societies, as far as possible, wherever such societies are prepared to undertake these works ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes, so long as they conform to the rules obtaining in the Department. Some contracts have been given accordingly.

Registration Department.

289. MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether the revision of pay of the clerical staff in the Department of Registration has been effected, and, if so, when ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : A scheme of revision is under preparation.

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